

MOD

2. In *Shakespeare*, vulgar; mean; common.
Trifles, such as we present *modern* friends withal. *Shakespeare*.
The justice
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
Full of wise saws and *modern* instances. *Shakespeare*.
We have our philosophical persons to make *modern* and familiar things supernatural and causeless. *Shakespeare*.
MODERNS. *n. f.* Those who have lived lately, opposed to the ancients.
There are *moderns* who, with a slight variation, adopt the opinion of Plato. *Boyle on Colours*.
Some by old words to fame have made pretence;
Ancients in phrase, mere *moderns* in their sense! *Pope*.
MODERNISM. *n. f.* [from *modern*.] Deviation from the ancient and classical manner. A word invented by *Swift*.
Scribblers send us over their trash in prose and verse, with abominable curtailings and quaint *modernisms*. *Swift*.
TO MODERNISE. *v. a.* [from *modern*.] To adapt ancient compositions to modern persons or things; to change ancient to modern language.
MODEST. *adj.* [modeste, Fr. *modestus*, Latin.]
MODESTNESS. *n. f.* [from *modest*.] Novelty.
1. Not arrogant; not presumptuous; not boastful; bashful.
Of boasting more than of a tomb afraid;
A soldier should be *modest* as a maid. *Young*.
2. Not impudent; not forward.
Resolve me with all *modest* haste, which way
Thou might'st deserve, or they impose this usage. *Shakespeare*.
Her face, as in a nymph, display'd
A fair fierce boy, or in a boy betray'd
The blushing beauties of a *modest* maid. *Dryden's Ovid*.
3. Not loose; not unchaste.
Mrs. Ford, the honest woman, the *modest* wife, the virtuous creature, that hath the jealous fool to her husband. *Shakespeare, Merry Wives of Windsor*.
4. Not excessive; not extreme; moderate; within a mean.
There appears much joy in him, even so much that joy could not shew itself *modest* enough without a badge of bitterness. *Shakespeare, Much ado about nothing*.
During the last four years, by a *modest* computation, there have been brought into Great Britain above six millions sterling in bullion. *Addison's State of the War*.
MODESTLY. *adv.* [from *modest*.]
1. Not arrogantly; not presumptuously.
Though learn'd, well bred; and though well bred, sincere,
Modestly bold, and humanly severe. *Pope*.
I may *modestly* conclude, that whatever errors there may be in this play, there are not those which have been objected to it. *Dryden's Don Sebastian*.
First he *modestly* conjectures,
His pupil might be tir'd with lectures;
Which help'd to mortify his pride,
Yet gave him not the heart to chide. *Swift's Miscel.*
2. Not impudently; not forwardly; with modesty.
I, your glass,
Will *modestly* discover to yourself
That of yourself, which yet you know not of. *Shakespeare*.
3. Not loosely; not lawfully.
That of yourself, which yet you know not of. *Shakespeare*.
4. Not excessively; with moderation.
MODESTY. *n. f.* [modestie, Fr. *modestas*, Latin.]
1. Not arrogance; not presumptuousness.
They cannot, with *modesty*, think to have found out absolutely the best which the wit of men may devise. *Hooker*.
2. Not impudence; not forwardness.
Moderation; decency.
A lord will hear you play;
But I am doubtful of your *modesties*,
Left over eying of his odd behaviour,
You break into some merry passion. *Shakespeare*.
3. Chastity; purity of manners.
Would you not swear,
All you that see her, that she were a maid,
By these exterior shews? But she is more,
Her blush is guiltiness, not *modesty*. *Shakespeare*.
Of the general character of women, which is *modesty*, he has taken a most becoming care; for his amorous expressions go no farther than virtue may allow. *Dryden*.
Talk not to a lady in a way that *modesty* will not permit her to answer. *Clarissa*.
MODESTY-PIECE. *n. f.*
A narrow lace which runs along the upper part of the stays before, being a part of the tucker, is called the *modesty-piece*. *Addison's Guard*. N° 118.
MODICUM. *n. f.* [Latin.] Small portion; pittance.
What *modicum* of wit he utters: his evasions have ears thus long. *Shakespeare, Troil. and Cressida*.
Though hard their fate,
A cruise of water, and an ear of corn,
Yet still they grudge'd that *modicum*. *Dryden*.

MOH

- MODIFIABLE**. *adj.* [from *modify*.] That may be diversified by accidental differences.
It appears to be more difficult to conceive a distinct, visible image in the uniform, invariable, essence of God, than in variously *modifiable* matter; but the manner how I see either still escapes my comprehension. *Locke*.
MODIFIABLE. *adj.* [from *modify*.] Diversifiable by various modes.
MODIFICATION. *n. f.* [modification, French.] The act of modifying any thing, or giving it new accidental differences of form or mode.
The chief of all signs is human voice, and the several modifications thereof by the organs of speech, viz. the letters of the alphabet, formed by the several motions of the mouth. *Holder's Elements of Speech*.
The phenomena of colours in refracted or reflected light, are not caused by new modifications of the light variously impressed, according to the various terminations of the light and shadow. *Newton's Opticks*.
If these powers of cogitation, volition and sensation, are neither inherent in matter as such, nor acquirable to matter by any motion and modification of it, it necessarily follows that they proceed from some cogitative substance, some incorporeal inhabitant within us, which we call spirit. *Bentley*.
TO MODIFY. *v. a.* [modifier, French.]
1. To change the form or accidents of any thing; to shape.
Yet there is that property in all letters, of aptness to be conjoined in syllables and words through the voluble motions of the organs, that they *modify* and discriminate the voice without appearing to discontinue it. *Holder*.
The middle parts of the broad beam of white light which fell upon the paper, did, without any confine of shadow to *modify* it, become coloured all over with one uniform colour, the colour being always the same in the middle of the paper as at the edges. *Newton's Opticks*.
2. To soften; to moderate.
After all this dancanting and *modifying* upon the matter, there is hazard on the yielding side. *L'Estrange*.
Of his grace
He *modifies* his first severe decree,
The keener edge of battle to rebate. *Dryden*.
MODILLON. *n. f.* [French; modilus, Lat.]
Modillions, in architecture, are little brackets which are often set under the corinthian and composite orders, and serve to support the projection of the frieze or of the pediment; this part must be distinguished from the great modil, which is the diameter of the pillar; for, as the proportion of an edifice in general depends on the diameter of the pillar, so the size and number of the *modillions*, as also the interval between them, ought to have due relation to the whole fabric. *Harris*.
The *modillions* or dentelli make a noble show by their graceful projections. *Spektor*, N° 415.
MODISH. *adj.* [from *mode*.] Fashionable; formed according to the reigning custom.
But you, perhaps, expect a *modish* feast,
With am'rous songs, and wanton dances grac'd. *Dryd*.
Hypocrits, at the fashionable end of the town, is very different from hypocrisy in the city; the *modish* hypocrite endeavours to appear more virtuous than he really is, the other kind of hypocrite more virtuous. *Addison's Spect.* N° 399.
MODISHLY. *adv.* [from *modish*.] Fashionably.
Young children should not be much perplexed about putting off their hats, and making legs *modishly*. *Locke*.
MODISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *modish*.] Affectation of the fashion.
TO MODULATE. *v. a.* [modulator, Latin.] To form found to a certain key, or to certain notes.
The nose, lips, teeth, palate, jaw, tongue, weasand, lungs, muscles of the chest, diaphragm, and muscles of the belly, all serve to make or *modulate* the sound. *Grew's Cymol.*
Could any person so *modulate* her voice as to deceive so many. *Broom's Notes on the Odyssey*.
Echo propagates around
Each charm of *modulated* sound. *Anon*.
MODULATION. *n. f.* [from *modulate*; modulation, Fr.]
1. The act of forming any thing to certain proportion.
The number of the simple original minerals have not been rightly fixt: the matter of two or more kinds being mixed together, and by the different proportion and modulation of that matter variously diversified, have been reputed all different kinds. *Woodward*.
The speech, as it is a sound resulting from the modulation of the air, has most affinity to the spirit, but, as it is uttered by the tongue, has immediate cognation with the body, and so is the fittest instrument to manage a commerce between the invisible powers of human souls clothed in flesh. *Government of the Tongue*.
2. Sound modulated; agreeable harmony.
Innumerable songsters, in the freshening shade,
Their *modulations* mix, mellifluous. *Thomson's Spring*.
MODULATOR.

MOI

- MODULATOR**. *n. f.* [from *modulate*.] He who forms sounds to a certain key; a tuner; that which modulates.
The tongue is the grand instrument of taste, the faithful judge of all our nourishment, the artful *modulator* of our voice, and the necessary servant of mastication. *Derham*.
MODULE. *n. f.* [modulus, Latin.] An empty representation; a model.
My heart hath one poor string to stay it by,
Which holds but till thy news be uttered;
And then, all this thou seest, is but a clod
And *module* of confounded royalty. *Shakespeare, King John*.
MODUS. *n. f.* [Latin.] Something paid as a compensation for tithes on the supposition of being a moderate equivalent.
One terrible circumstance of this bill, is turning the tithe of flax and hemp into what the lawyers call a *modus*, or a certain sum in lieu of a tenth part of the product. *Swift*.
MODWALL. *n. f.* A bird. *Ainsl.*
MOE. *adj.* [ma, Saxon. See *Mo*.] More; a greater number.
The chronicles of England mention no *moe* than only six kings bearing the name of Edward since the conquest, therefore it cannot be there should be more. *Hooker, b. ii.*
MOHAIR. *n. f.* [moire, Fr.] Thread or stuff made of camels or other hair.
She, while her lover pants upon her breast,
Can mark the figures on an Indian chest,
And when she sees her friend in deep despair,
Observes how much a chintz exceeds *mohair*. *Pope*.
MOHOCK. *n. f.* The name of a cruel nation of America given to ruffians who infested, or rather were imagined to infest, the streets of London.
From milk-sop he starts up *moack*. *Prior*.
Who has not trembled at the *moack*'s name? *Gay*.
Thou hast fallen upon me with the rage of a mad dog, or a *moack*. *Dennis*.
MOJDERED. *adj.* Crazed. *Ainsl.*
MOIDORE. *n. f.* [moide, Fr.] A Portugal coin, rated at one pound seven shillings.
MOISSEY. *n. f.* [moitis, French, from *moien*, the middle.] Half; one of two equal parts.
This company being divided into two equal *moities*, the one before, the other since the coming of Christ; that part which, since the coming of Christ, partly hath embraced, and partly shall embrace, the Christian religion, we term as by a more proper name, the Church of Christ. *Hooker, b. iii.*
The death of Antony
Is not a single doom, in that name lay
A *moity* of the world. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleopatra*.
Say, that she were gone,
Given to the fire, a *moity* of my rest
Might come to me. *Shakespeare, Winter's Tale*.
Touch'd with human gentleness and love,
Forgive a *moity* of the principal. *Shakespeare*.
The militia was settled, a *moity* of which should be nominated by the king, and the other *moity* by the parliament. *Cl.*
As this is likely to produce a cessation of arms among one half of our island, it is reasonable that the more beautiful *moity* of his majesty's subjects should establish a truce. *Addison*.
TO MOIL. *v. a.* [moiller, French.]
1. To dawb with dirt.
All they which were left were *moiled* with dirt and mire by reason of the deepness of the rotten way. *Knolles*.
2. To weary.
No more tug one another thus, nor *moil* yourselves, receive
Prize equal. *Chapman's Iliad*.
TO MOIL. *v. n.* [moiller, French.]
1. To labour in the mire.
Moil not too much under-ground, for the hope of mines is very uncertain. *Bacon's Essays*.
2. To toil; to drudge.
They toil and *moil* for the interest of their masters, that in requital break their hearts; and the freer they are of their flesh, the more scandalous is the bondage. *L'Estrange*.
Oh the endless misery of the life I lead! cries the *moiling* husband; to spend all my days in ploughing. *L'Estrange*.
Now he must *moil*, and drudge, for one he loaths. *Dry.*
With thee 'twas Marian's dear delight
To *moil* all day, and merry-make at night. *Gay's Past.*
MOIST. *adj.* [moiste, French.]
1. Wet, not dry; wet, not liquid; wet in a small degree.
Why were the *moist* in number so outdone,
That to a thousand dry they are but one. *Blackmore*.
Many who live well in a dry air, fall into all the diseases that depend upon a relaxation in a *moist* one.
Nor yet, when *moist* Arcturus clouds the sky,
The woods and fields their pleasing toils deny. *Pope*.
2. Juicy; succulent.
TO MOIST. *v. a.* [from *moist*.] To make damp; to make
TO MOISTEN. *v. a.* wet to a small degree; to damp.
Write till your ink be dry; and with your tears
Moist it again; and frame some feeling line. *Shakespeare*.

MOL

- His breasts are full of milk, and his bones are *moistened*. *Job xxi. 24.*
A pipe a little *moistened* on the inside, so as there be no drops left, maketh a more solemn sound than if the pipe were dry. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.* N° 230.
When torrents from the mountains fall no more, the swelling river is reduced into his shallow bed, with scarce water to *moisten* his own pebbles. *Dryden's Æn.*
MOISTENER. *n. f.* [from *moisten*.] The person or thing that moistens.
MOISTNESS. *n. f.* [from *moist*.] Dampness; wetness in a small degree.
Pleasure both kinds take in the *moistness* and density of the air. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.* N° 823.
The small particles of brick or stone the least *moistness* would join together. *Addison's Guard*.
MOISTURE. *n. f.* [moiteur, Fr. from *moist*.] Small quantity of water or liquid.
Sometimes angling to a little river near hand, which, for the *moisture* it bestowed upon roots of some flourishing trees, was rewarded with their shadow. *Sidney*.
All my body's *moisture*
Scarcely serves to quench my furnace-burning heat. *Shak.*
Set such plants as require much *moisture* upon sandy, dry grounds. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.* N° 526.
While dryness *moisture*, coldness heat refits,
All that we have, and that we are, subsists. *Denham*.
If some penurious source by chance appear'd
Scanty of waters, when you scoop'd it dry,
And offer'd the full helmet up to Cato,
Did he not dash th' untasted *moisture* from him. *Addison*.
MOLES. *n. f.* The meshes. *Ainsl.*
MOLEY. *adj.* Dark: as, *moley* weather. *Ainsl.* It seems a corruption of murky: and in some places they call it muggy, dusky.
MOLÉ. *n. f.* [mol, Saxon; mole, Fr. *mola*, Lat.]
1. A *mole* is a formless concretion of extravasated blood, which grows into a kind of flesh in the uterus, and is called a false conception. *Quincy*.
2. A natural spot or discolouration of the body.
To nourish hair upon the *moles* of the face, is the perpetuation of a very ancient custom. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.
Such in painting are the warts and *moles*, which adding a likeness to the face, are not therefore to be omitted. *Dryden*.
That Timothy Trim and Jack were the same person, was proved, particularly by a *mole* under the left pap. *Arbutnot*.
The peculiarities in Homer are marks and *moles*, by which every common eye distinguishes him. *Pope*.
3. [From *moles*, Lat. *mole*, Fr.] A mound; a dyke.
Sion is frightened on the north side by the sea-ruined wall of the *mole*. *Sandys*.
With asphaltick slime the gather'd beach
They fasten'd; and the *mole* immense wrought on
Over the foaming deep high-arch'd; a bridge
Of length prodigious. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. x.
The great quantities of stones dug out of the rock could not easily conceal themselves, had they not been consumed in the *moles* and buildings of Naples. *Addison on Italy*.
Bid the broad arch the dangerous flood contain,
The *mole* projected break the roaring main. *Pope*.
4. A little beast that works under-ground.
Tread softly, that the blind *mole* may not
Hear a foot fall; we now are near his cell. *Shakespeare*.
What is more obvious than a *mole*, and yet what more palpable argument of Providence? *More*.
Moles have perfect eyes, and holes for them through the skin, not much bigger than a pin's head. *Ray on the Creation*.
Thy arts of building from the bee receive;
Learn of the *mole* to plow, the worm to weave. *Pope*.
MOLEBAT. *n. f.* A fish. *Ainsl.*
MOLECAST. *n. f.* [mole and cast.] Hillock cast up by a mole.
In Spring let the *molecasts* be spread, because they hinder the mowers. *Mortimer's Husbandry*.
MOLECATCHER. *n. f.* [mole and catcher.] One whose employment is to catch moles.
Get *molecatcher* cunningly moule for to kill,
And harrow and cast abroad every hill. *Tusser's Husb.*
MOLEHILL. *n. f.* [mole and bill.] Hillock thrown up by the mole working underground.
You feed your solitariness with the conceits of the poets, whose liberal pens can as easily travel over mountains as *mole-hills*. *Sidney*.
The rocks, on which the salt-sea billows beat,
And Atlas' tops, the clouds in height that pass,
Compar'd to his huge person *molehills* be. *Fairfax*.
A churchwarden, to express Saint Martin's in the Fields, caused to be engraven a martin sitting upon a *molehill* between two trees. *Peabam on Blazoning*.
Our politician having baffled conscience, must not be nonplused with inferior obligations; and, having leapt over such mountains, lie down before a *molehill*. *South's Sermons*.
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Mountains,